

distribution of the species is given in tabular form at the end of the paper, from which it appears that 19 are peculiar to Cozumel, while 24 are North American, and the remaining 21 tropical American.

As already noticed (*Auk*, Vol. II, p. 294), a paper on the birds of this island was published by Mr. Salvin in 'The Ibis' for April, 1885, in which several of the species previously given as new by Mr. Ridgway were renamed by Mr. Salvin. The method of Mr. Ridgway's publication of his preliminary paper (in pamphlet form, in advance of the 'Proceedings' of which it formed a part) having been criticised by Mr. Salvin, Mr. Ridgway takes occasion to defend the system of an advance distribution of authors' editions, so often, and, as we believe, properly, resorted to, particularly, but not exclusively, in this country, in cases where otherwise a considerable interval would elapse between the printing and the distribution, or 'publication,' of the papers in the regular issuing of the publications of which they form a part.—J. A. A.

**Minor Ornithological Publications.**—'Random Notes on Natural History,' a very excellent and well edited monthly journal of natural history, published by Southwick and Jencks of Providence, R. I., contains (Vols. I-II, 1884-85), besides valuable articles on the Mammals, Reptiles, and Plants of Rhode Island, the following original notes and papers on ornithology (Nos. 1003-1036). The unsigned articles are, we are informed, mainly from the pen of Mr. F. T. Jencks, and are so entered in the following index to the ornithological papers.

1003. *Color of Birds' Eyes.* [F. T. Jencks.] *Random Notes on Natural History*, I, No. 1, Jan. 1884, p. 1, No. 2, p. 1,\* No. 4, p. 6, No. 6, p. 3, Vol. II, No. 7, p. 56, No. 8, p. 64, No. 10, p. 75.—Under this head is given the color of the iris of various species of birds, as noted from freshly killed specimens. The notes relate to a large number of species of Birds of Prey, Ducks, Gulls, Herons, Woodpeckers, etc., and in many cases include juvenile stages as well as the adult.

1004. *A Very Rare Bird in Rhode Island.* [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, p. 6.—"A Young Gyrfalcon, *Hierofalco Gyrfalco*, var. *sacer*" was killed at Point Judith, Oct. 11, 1883, by E. S. Hopkins.

1005. *Brunnich's Guillemot in Rhode Island.* [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, p. 6.—One was shot "between Warwick Neck Light and Patience Island, Dec. 26, 1883." The first specimens we have ever known taken in Narragansett Bay." Ten others are reported as taken later. (*Ibid.*, No. 2, p. 8).

1006. *Short-Eared Owl's Nest.* [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, p. 8.

1007. *Among the Buff-breasted Sandpipers.* [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, No. 2, p. 4.—The record of a day's collecting at Vermilion, Dak.

1008. [*Bird Notes.* By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, p. 9.—An adult male King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*) shot at Nayatt Point, Bristol Co., R. I., about Jan. 1, 1884. Purple Finches reported wintering in abundance near Rangeley Lakes in Maine.

\* Each number of Volume I is separately paged.

1009. *The Roscate Spoonbill in Florida Rookeries.* [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, No. 3, p. 4, No. 5, pp. 4, 5, No. 6, p. 4.—A detailed account of a collector's experience with the Spoonbills in Brevard County, Florida, near Indian River Inlet, in 1874. Describes the nest, eggs, and habits of the bird, with notes incidentally on various other species.

1010. *A New Bird for Rhode Island and the Second for New England.* [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, No. 5, p. 8. and No. 6, p. 3.—A male Prothonotary Warbler, killed in South Kingstown, R. I., April 21, 1884, by R. G. Hazard, 2d.

1011. *A Nonpareil Passerina ciris in Rhode Island.* [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, No. 5, p. 8.—Shot in Scituate, R. I., "during the summer of 1882," by Daniel Seamans, who also shot, at the same place, a Richardson's Owl, "during the following winter."

1012. *An English Corn Crake in Rhode Island.* [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, No. 6, p. 3.—Taken at Cranston, R. I., about 1857. Recorded on the authority of Mr. Newton Dexter, who obtained the bird while still in the flesh.

1013. *Great Gray Owl. Spectral Owl. Strix cinera* (sic). [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, No. 7, p. 3.—Record of a specimen killed "late in the winter of 1882 and '83," on Fox Island, near Wickford, R. I. Reference is made to another specimen in the collection at Brown University, "said to have been taken in Seekonk, Mass., some twenty years ago," but apparently not previously recorded.

1014. [*Nest of the Marsh Hawk.*] By G. S. A. *Ibid.*, p. 7.—Reference to the character of five nests found in the season of 1884.

1015. *Valuable Notes from Vermont.* [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, No. 8, p. 3.—Gives some notes contributed by Mr. C. W. Graham, which include a record of the capture of a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Mivulus forficatus*) at St. Johnsbury, Vt., some time previously. The specimen "now reposes in Dartmouth College." Also refers to the recent capture near the same place of the Kittiwake Gull and the Stilt.

1016. [*Great Horned Owl appropriating the Nests of the Bald Eagle.*] By Frank H. Alien. *Ibid.*, p. 4.

1017. *Feathered Engineers. What a Couple of Baltimore Orioles did by Setting Their Wits to Work.* *Ibid.*, No. 9, p. 4. (From the 'New York Sun'.)

1018. [*A Black Vulture in Vermont.*] By [C. W.] Graham. *Ibid.*, p. 4.—Record of a specimen shot at Woodbury, Vt., about July 10, 1884.

1019. [*A Prolific Pair of Song Sparrows.*] By J. N. Clark. *Ibid.*, No. 10, p. 3.

1020. *Remarks on the Migration of Birds in North America.* By C. Hart Merriam, M. D. *Ibid.*, No. 12, pp. 3-5.—Brief report of the work of the A. O. U. Committee on Bird Migration for the year 1884, giving dates respecting the spring migration of five species.

1021. [*Notes on the Sharp-shinned Hawk.*] By J. N. Clark. *Ibid.*, p. 10.

1022. *A New Wrinkle in Taxidermy.* By William Brewster. *Ibid.*, Vol. II, No 1, p. 1.—How to easily turn a mounted bird into a skin.

1023. *The Night Heron*. By S. T. Denton. *Ibid.*, No. 2, pp. 9, 10.—Account of one kept in confinement.
1024. *Winter Notes*. [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, No. 2, p. 15.—Records a Great Blue Heron taken in Milton, Vt., Dec. 22, 1884, and the capture of two Great Gray Owls at the same place the previous winter. Also a Prairie Warbler killed in Rhode Island, Dec. 4, 1884.
1025. *The Ipswich Sparrow in Rhode Island*. [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, No. 3, pp. 17, 18.—Numbers taken on the sandy beach, near Point Judith, Nov. 27, 1884.
1026. *Bird Migration*. By Montague Chamberlain. *Ibid.*, No. 3, p. 18.—On the arrival of the Night Hawk at Prince Edward Island, based on notes of Francis Bain.
1027. *The Color of Birds' Eyes*. By E. J. Smith. *Ibid.*, No. 3, p. 23.—Notes on various species.
1028. [Winter Notes. By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, No. 3, p. 23.—A Snowy Owl taken at Newport, R. I., and Hawk Owls reported taken in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New Brunswick. (See also p. 34.)
1029. *A Collecting Trip to Cape Cod*. [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, No. 4, pp. 25, 26, No. 5, pp. 33, 34.—Interesting notes on various Shore Birds, Gulls, and Terns, as observed at Chatham, Mass., in May, 1883.
1030. *Notes on the White-breasted Nuthatch*. (*Sitta carolinensis*.) By John H. Steele. *Ibid.*, No. 4, p. 26.
1030. *Common Cormorants in Rhode Island*. [By F. T. Jencks.] *Ibid.*, No. 5, p. 34.—A specimen taken at Newport, March 27, 1885, and another at Nayatt Point, April 10.
1031. *A Seasonable Diet*. By Thos. W. Fraine. *Ibid.*, No. 5, p. 35.—The Goosander as a fish murderer.
1032. [The White-checked Warbler, *Helminthophila leucobronchialis*.] By J. N. Clark. *Ibid.*, No. 6, p. 43.—Record of a specimen seen (but not taken) at Saybrook, Conn., "in the spring of 1880."
1033. *Wingless Birds*. By J. W. Wonfor. *Ibid.*, No. 6, pp. 49-51.—A brief account of Ostriches, Emus, Cassowaries, and Penguins.
1034. *Breeding-Places of Millions of Sea Fowl*. *Ibid.*, No. 7, pp. 53, 54.—At Bird Rock, Gulf of St. Lawrence. (From the Providence 'Sunday Telegram'.)
1035. *Notes on Food of Raptorial Birds*. By Charles Dury. *Ibid.*, No. 8, pp. 57, 58.—Notes on the contents of stomachs of various species of Hawks and Owls. (From Journ. Cincinnati Soc. Nat. Hist. April, 1885.)
1036. *Successful Rearing of some Young Dusky Ducks*. By J. N. Clark. *Ibid.*, No. 12, p. 93.—J. A. A.

Publications Received.—Blasius, R., J. Rohweder, R. Tancre, and A. Walker. VIII, Jahresbericht (1883) des Ausschusses für Beobachtungsstationen der Vögel Deutschlands. (Journ. für Orn. July, 1885.)

Blasius, W. (1) Die Raubvögel von Cochabamba. (Mitth. des Orn. Ver. Wien, 1884.) (2) Osteologische Studien (Messungs-Methoden an Vögel-Skeletten). (Journ. für Orn. Oct. 1885.) (3) Ueber einige Vögel von